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LICENSED RATION SHOPS OWNED BY THE SEVERAL COMMUNITIES

285. Mr. K. R. Achuthan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to furnish a list containing the total number of licensed ration shops owned by the several communities in the State?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. A list showing the total number of ration shops owned by each community is appended. (Appendix)

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether the communal War system or rather the Staff Selection Board principle has to be strictly adhered to in the case of Fair Price Shops also.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No, Sir. Those who wanted to do business and whom we thought it would be better to entrust the shops were given them.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* My humble question was, Sir, whether it is a principle or whether it is an accident that these shops were given to people belonging to different communities?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* That is what I explained. People applied and we enquired into their applications whether they would do the business well and they will serve the purpose and they were given. No particular communities were sought to be represented.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I take it, Sir, that the number given in Appendix is proportionate to the number of officers from the various communities?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I have not gone into that aspect.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* May I know whether it is not the policy of the Government to see that as far as possible licensed shops are given communal war without infringing on the system of working?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* When other things are equal there is no objection to give the shops to the different communities.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether the applicants were asked to state in their applications the name of the community to which they belong?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Was any enquiry ordered to be made or actually made to find out to which community an applicant belongs or was only his competence taken into consideration?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Competence to run the shop and his usefulness in any particular area were the main considerations.

PRICE OF JAGGERY

286. Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the average price paid by the Civil Supplies Department for one cwt. of jaggery in 1119;

(*b*) what is the transport charges incurred on an average per cwt. in 1119;

(*c*) what was the average selling price of jaggery per cwt. at the depots or shops under the Civil Supplies Department;

(*d*) what is the percentage of profit made?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Rs. 13—4—4 including Administrative surcharge, packing and sales tax.

(*b*) Rs. 2—1—10.

(*c*) Rs 18—15—0.

(*d*) No profit. There was shortage; and a tare for an average of about 3 lbs. per cwt. towards the weight of packing was allowed to the merchants. When these are taken into consideration there will be no profit made in the transaction.

BUND IN KOLADATH PADAM—REQUEST FOR

287. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura):* Will Government be pleased to answer.—

(*a*) did the Government receive a petition requesting for the putting up of a bund in the "Koladath Padam" in Nettoor in Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk in 1119 or 1120;

(*b*) if so, what did the Government do in the matter?

House, that was deleted. The Select Committee went into that question very seriously and it was decided that it will be unwise to reject altogether the co-operation promised by the private institutions. It was therefore decided that subsidy to the extent of the actual cost of maintenance including clothing and bedding alone shall be given to such institutions as would take in vagrants on the basis of the expenditure actually incurred by the nearest Government centre. It was also decided that option should be given to the vagrant as to whether he should go to a private home or whether he should go to a settlement conducucted by the Government. The choice being given to him, it was decided that if he goes to a private centre of his own choice, the Government should extend to him help to the extent of the actual maintenance, clothing and bedding. With this change, the Select Committee has agreed with all the other proposals of the original Bill.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Sir, I beg to second the motion that the Bill as reported upon by the Select Committee be taken into consideration by the House.

Motion put and carried.

The House rose for the day at 4-55 p.m.

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA
Secretary to the Council

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APPENDIX I

(Please see answer to question No. 285)

List showing total No. of ration shops owned by each community in the State

		Brought forward	1042
		Ambalavasi	12
Nairs	150	Washerman	2
Tamil Brahmin	33	Pondan	1
Romo Syrian	294	Chaliyan	2
Latin Catholic	135	Malayala Brahmin	8
Jacobites	73	Valan	1
Other Xian	3	Jew	2
Anglo-Indians	3	Ezhuthassan	16
Ezhuvas	178	Chettiyar	24
Muslims	114	Nambidi	1
Saraswath Brahmins	39	Banyan	1
Kudumbichetty	7	Koundan	1
Kshatriyas	2	Kurukkal	2
Pilla	10	Kaikollan	2
Pulayan	1	Telugu chetty	1
	1042		1118

Besides, there are 41 shops run by Co-operative Societies and other such institutions.